

Table 2: Breakdown by medium

Number	Medium	% of total
73	ceramics	18.8
68	painters/photographers	17.5
43	glass	11.1
37	fiber/textiles/baskets	9.5
30	wood	7.7
21	writers/performance	5.4
20	jewelry	5.2
15	metals	3.9

Based on conversations with artists and accountants, one reason for lower non-employer counts is that self-employed numbers are based on tax returns for people who have (a) earned more than \$1,000 profit and (b) self-classify their business under the artists and performers category. But some crafts people use manufacturing classifications, possibly to get tax advantages available to manufacturers. Some artists work out of their homes and are able to find enough deductions from property depreciation, utilities, insurance, etc., to show less than \$1000 earned. And some may not report all their cash sales. The low occupational figures may be a result of self-reporting inconsistencies on census forms. Some may call themselves glass manufacturers and some that have more than one source of income may choose the other.

Services for the arts

The Toe River Arts Council (TRAC), with its main office in Spruce Pine, represents and serves the artists in both counties. Its services include a gallery; arts festivals; exhibitions and concerts at TRAC and elsewhere; marketing; newsletters with scheduled events; two annual art tours, one in Dec and one in June; arts auctions; a web site; and a small arts grants and music scholarship competition.

The Yancey County Cultural Resource Commission is the home of Yancey Arts, a separate 501c3 that promotes the county's artisans with funding from Golden Leaf. It maintains historic landmarks, refurbishes affordable studio space and manages the web site www.yanceyarts.com and oversees the apprenticeship program.

Cooperatives, networks, and schools

1. **Toe River Crafts** in Celo has a showroom open from April through December, 26 artist/members. It has no paid staff, run and governed by members
2. **Glass Studios of the South Toe River Valley** are eight glass blowers at six studios in Celo that advertise, market, arrange studio tours collectively.
3. **Potters of Roan Mountain** is a guild with 14 potters at 11 studios in Mitchell County near Roan Mountain. They advertise and market as "Potters of the Roan" and provide maps to their studios